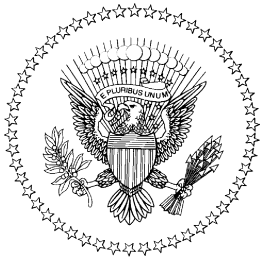


Weekly Compilation of
**Presidential
Documents**



Monday, July 16, 2001
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Contents

Addresses and Remarks

- America's Promise, ceremony honoring—1019
- Maryland, Johns Hopkins Hospital in
Baltimore—1033
- Medical organization leaders, meeting—1026
- Medicare reform—1029
- NAACP convention, videotape remarks—1022
- New York
 - Congressional Gold Medal, posthumous
presentation to John Cardinal O'Connor
in New York City—1025
 - Immigration and Naturalization Service
ceremony on Ellis Island—1023
- Patients' Bill of Rights—1022
- Radio address—1019
- Virginia, Inova Fair Oaks Hospital in
Fairfax—1022

Communications to Congress

- Iraq, compliance with U.N. Security Council
resolutions—1037

Communications to Federal Agencies

- Implementing Government Reform,
memorandum—1028

Interviews With the News Media

- Exchange with reporters in Fairfax, VA—1022

Proclamations

- Captive Nations Week—1032

Statements by the President

- Climate change review initiatives—1035
- Cuba, toward a democratic—1036
- House Ways and Means Committee, action on
the Faith-Based and Community
Initiatives—1027

Supplementary Materials

- Acts approved by the President—1041
- Checklist of White House press releases—
1040
- Digest of other White House
announcements—1037
- Nominations submitted to the Senate—1039

Editor's Note: The President was at Camp David, MD, on July 13, the closing date of this issue. Releases and announcements issued by the Office of the Press Secretary but not received in time for inclusion in this issue will be printed next week.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF

PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

Published every Monday by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC 20408, the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* contains statements, messages, and other Presidential materials released by the White House during the preceding week.

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Week Ending Friday, July 13, 2001

The President's Radio Address

July 7, 2001

Good morning. My second working day as President, I sent to Congress the boldest plan to improve our public schools in a generation, a plan to raise educational standards for every child and to require new accountability from every school. This reform gives our public schools greater resources and insists on proven results in return, not just for some of our children but for all of them.

The plan has now passed both Houses of Congress with strong margins and broad bipartisan support. We stand on the verge of dramatic improvements for America's public schools. We're increasing funding for public schools and insisting on results. We are maximizing local control to give Governors, school boards, and local people more say in their schools. And we are giving parents unprecedented new choices to help their children get a quality education.

Yet, all of this will happen only when Congress joins with me to take the final, crucial step of resolving differences between the House and the Senate versions and sending an education reform bill to my desk.

Across America, Governors are waiting to work with their legislatures to implement reform. Local school boards are eager to put the new flexibility my plan offers into action. We are ready to provide teachers with the best research on the science of reading this very fall. We need to act quickly, because States and schools must make decisions on how to use their new flexibility and live up to their new responsibility.

We have come so far; we're almost there. And we must finish the job. Completing the work of education reform is a final exam for Congress before they go home in August for summer vacation and before America's children go back to school.

The differences between the education reform bills that passed with large majorities

in both House and Senate are small. Both bills call for strong accountability. The Senate bill gives States more flexibility. The House bill is more fiscally responsible and focuses Federal dollars where they will do the most good.

With prompt action this month, our public schools can begin to implement the first of the education reforms this fall, with guidance to help teachers use the latest research to teach all our children to read.

This is summer vacation for our children, and it can be a season of accomplishment for our Nation's leaders. I urge the Congress to act swiftly on my education reform plan.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 11:40 a.m. on July 5 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on July 7. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 6 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

Remarks at a Ceremony Honoring America's Promise

July 9, 2001

Thank you all very much. Marc. There is no more important goal for America than to make sure every person realizes the promise of our great land, and I want to thank the good folks of America's Promise for working tirelessly to make sure that goal reaches throughout all our country. My administration stands side by side with you.

And here in Washington, we can help. It's important for the Congress to pass the education reform package to make sure no child gets left behind. It's important for Congress to pass a good and meaningful Patients' Bill of Rights to make sure all in America have got good access to health care. And it's important for America for Congress to pass my

faith-based initiative so that Government can stand side by side with the soldiers in the armies of compassion to make sure America's promise is rich and real for every citizen.

I'm honored that the first chairman of America's Promise agreed to be our Nation's Secretary of State. He's doing a fantastic job for our country. Welcome, Mr. Secretary. Like me, he married well. *[Laughter]* Thank you for being here, Alma.

I want to thank my friend Marc Racicot for being the chairman of the board. I want to thank Peter Gallagher. I welcome my friend the Governor of Maine, Angus King, for being here. I want to thank Ted Stevens and Connie Morella, as well, for being here—Members of the United States Congress. I want to thank the First Lady of Michigan, Michelle Engler, for joining us, as well. It is my honor to welcome to the Rose Garden Jackie Joyner-Kersey, as well as Bob. Thank you all, and thank you for being such a great supporter for America's Promise.

I also want to thank the members of the board of directors, as well as the members of the Youth Leadership Team, 15 of our best in America who are here today. Please stand. *[Applause]*

Just as I was receiving the organization's annual report, I also had an opportunity to say hello to the 15. And our country is in great hands when you look in the eyes of these 15 fantastic leaders. The record has been impressive, and the commitment has been deep. And I want to thank you, Marc, for continuing to challenge corporate America and individuals with the simple and urgent message: There's a need in every community, and a responsible society meets those needs.

Today we're joined by several men and women from around the country who represent the promise of America's Promise:

Mary Mahoney, the president and chief executive officer of Howard Johnson's. Where's Mary? Hi, Mary. Thank you for coming. She's been a mentor, and she's inspired employees at more than 500 hotels to serve as mentors. I want to thank you very much for your dedication.

Leon Assael, the dean of College of Dentistry at the University of Kentucky, is here. Mr. Dean, where are you? Thank you for

coming, Dean. They staffed a mobile dental van and asked volunteer faculty and students to serve more than 12,500 disadvantaged students in Appalachia. Thank you for your service to the country.

Reverend Clifford Barnett of Virginia's Brighton Rock AME Church. Thank you for coming, Reverend. He set up a safe haven for children to come to a place of worship, not only to find hot meals but to learn how to serve one another.

Charlie Trotter of Trotter's Restaurant of Chicago. Hello, Charlie. The man not only serves good food, but every Groundhog Day he opens his kitchen to teach area youth and has sponsored some of his neighborhood youth through scholarship programs. I want to thank you all for coming.

This is an example of the greatness of our country, where people ask the question, "What can I do to help?"—and then not wait for some Government activity to take place but do it anyway in spite of Government. I want to thank you all for serving as fantastic examples, just like I want to thank Aisha Shaheen. Where is she? Aisha—there she is. Thank you so much for coming. She understands that service is a part of a successful life. Catch this: She teaches honors in advanced placement English, biology, and calculus to inner-city youngsters in the south central neighborhood of Los Angeles.

We know what children need to succeed. They need mentors and role models like Aisha. They need to be healthy and educated and challenged to serve and challenged to love a neighbor just like they'd like to be loved themselves. And that's what America's Promise does.

In many neighborhoods, what a child needs is a caring adult. Yesterday, flying down from Maine, Angus King, the Governor of that State, told me about a program that he's starting to implement, where this summer they're going to recruit 30,000 mentors in the State of Maine, all aimed to surround the children of Maine with love, all aimed at understanding there's nothing more powerful than an individual that says to a child in need, "Somebody cares for you. Somebody loves you." So Angus, I want to thank you for setting the example.

My dream for America is for there to be mentors all over the country, in every neighborhood, in every community, where adults are able to say to a child, "The America's Promise belongs to you, just as much as it does to anybody else."

The effort requires a broad-scaled strategy. That's why I was pleased to see that America's Promise has drawn 500 national partners and more than 550 State and local partners. And the effort really has just begun.

So I want to thank America's Promise. I want to thank you for your love and compassion. And I want to thank the thousands all across our land who are working hard to make America a fabulous country for all.

Now, there are some things that Congress can do, as well. First, this Congress needs to get a education reform bill on my desk before the summer recess. We had a bill pass out of the House by a broad margin, a bill pass out of the Senate by a broad margin. There is no need for further delay. It is time to get a good reform bill.

This is a bill that says every child matters. We believe in setting high expectations for all children in America. We believe every child can learn. But we also understand that educational excellence is found at local levels. We pass unprecedented amount of power out of Washington to local jurisdictions, and in return for Federal dollars, which we increase, we expect results. We expect there to be a measurement so we can herald success and address failure before it's too late.

Secondly, the Congress must act on a Patients' Bill of Rights, a good Patients' Bill of Rights, one that recognizes patients are important, not lawyers, a Patients' Bill of Rights that encourages quality health care without encouraging frivolous and junk lawsuits that will threaten the very existence of an important health care policy in America. And so I urge—I urge Congress to bring a reasonable bill to my desk. We've made great progress. There's broad agreement.

For example, a heart patient should be able to see a cardiologist he needs without going through a gatekeeper, or a woman should be able to see her gynecologist without asking permission, or a parent should always be able to choose their child's pediatri-

cian. And anyone denied health care by an HMO ought to have the right to an immediate appeal, with the outcome determined by doctors, not HMO bureaucrats or trial lawyers.

We've got the makings for a good bill, and Congress ought to act and bring me a bill so I can sign it before the August recess.

And finally, there is no more important initiative than the faith-based program that I've submitted to the United States Congress. It's important because Government can't make people love one another. But what Government can do is stand side by side with those who do love and those who are compassionate. I can't think of anything more important for our Government to recognize the power of community and faith-based groups in our society. If the goal is to make sure no one is left behind, let us stand side by side with the soldiers in the armies of compassion who have taken on that call, themselves.

So I urge Congress to not get stuck in the process but to think about the results and to pass meaningful legislation that will allow and encourage and foster faith-based groups all across America to help people in need. I absolutely know that the great strength of the country lies in the hearts and souls of our citizens. And Congress must recognize that by enabling such faith-based programs to flourish all across the country.

So there are things we can do here in Washington to help. But there's nothing more important than our citizens. And America's Promise does a fabulous job of cultivating and gathering and nurturing the compassion of America. It's an honor to be the President of a country with so many loving people.

I understand that societies change one heart, one soul at a time, that here in Washington we tend to think all we've got to do is pass a law and everything will be fine. But that's not how it works. Cultures and hope change as a result of our compassion in America seizing the moment. And that's what America's Promise is about.

So Marc, thank you very much for bringing the report. I'm honored to receive it. I encourage people all across our country to find

a way to help, to become involved with making sure America's Promise is, in fact,—reaches it's hope all throughout our society. For those of you who are looking for a way to help our country, call America's Promise; say you want to help. And I can assure you we'll sign you up.

It's now my honor to sign a resolution, like other Presidents have done.

God bless you all, and God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:25 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to former Gov. Marc Racicot of Montana, chairman of the board, Peter A. Gallagher, president and chief executive officer, Michelle Engler, board member, and Jackie Joyner-Kersey, spokesperson, America's Promise; Alma Powell, wife of Secretary of State Colin L. Powell; and Ms. Joyner-Kersey's husband, Bobby Kersey. Following his remarks, the President signed the Declaration to Fulfill the Promise of America.

Remarks at Inova Fair Oaks Hospital and an Exchange With Reporters in Fairfax, Virginia

July 9, 2001

Patients' Bill of Rights

The President. Thank you all for coming. Knox, thank you very much for setting up the meeting with Knox and hospital officials, nurses, former patients. We had a great discussion about the need for our Nation to pass legislation with America's patients in mind, that the whole core of a good bill recognizes that patients ought to have direct access to specialists, such as Dr. Berry, an ob-gyn—cancer specialists, that patients ought to have the capacity to take complaints to an independent review organization staffed by doctors and medical professionals.

We're making good progress. There is a lot of agreement on a bill that has—bills moving their way through the House of Representatives right now.

But I want a bill to sign that does not run the cost of premiums up or health care up as a result of excessive lawsuits. I want a bill that honors patients, not trial lawyers, a bill that makes it easier for docs to do their job, as opposed to a bill that encourage excessive litigation.

I want to, again, thank you for the chance to visit.

Dr. Berry, you might want to say a few things.

[At this point, Dr. David B. Berry made brief remarks.]

The President. Okay, thank you all.

Q. Mr. President, any decisions on stem cell—

Q. What did you hear from the patients—

Q. What did the patients—

The President. The patients just want to make sure they've got access to specialists, and they, too, like the idea of having an independent review organization where they can take their complaints, where they can solve problems before it ends up in a court of law.

There are some people up there on the Hill that are interested in fostering excessive litigation, which is not good for patients. I think Americans understand that.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:18 p.m. in the boardroom following discussions in the hospital. In his remarks, he referred to J. Knox Singleton, chief executive officer, Inova Health System. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Videotape Remarks to the NAACP Convention

July 9, 2001

Thank you very much. I'm honored to be able to send my greetings to you for the 92d annual convention of the NAACP.

Last year I joined you in person at your convention in Baltimore. I said that there is no denying the truth that racism, despite all our progress, still exists, and that there's no escaping the reality that the party of Lincoln has not always carried the mantle of Lincoln. I said that recognizing and confronting our history is important but transcending our history is essential.

A year has passed since I gave that speech, and nearly 6 months have passed since I became the President. We must continue our work to ensure that my party keeps faith with the memory of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass.

I started by selecting a diverse, well-qualified Cabinet and senior staff. People like Colin Powell, Rod Paige, Condoleezza Rice, and Larry Thompson are tearing down barriers and setting new standards for excellence. Appointments are important, but so is the agenda.

I've made reform of our public schools my number one priority. I have worked closely with Democrats and Republicans in Congress to craft a bill that gives our schools more money but asks our schools for more in return. High standards, accountability, and a culture of excellence is the hallmark of school reform. Every child can learn, and no child should be left behind. I believe my education package is an important step in ensuring that our schools are worthy of our children's dreams.

And my agenda also includes moving forward on my Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. All across the country, private religious and community organizations are serving and uplifting the Nation's poor through a variety of services, from feeding the hungry to providing drug treatment to educating children with disabilities. Our Faith-Based and Community Initiative reflects my belief that Government must be active enough to support these charitable groups but humble enough to let good people in local communities provide such services.

Finally, my agenda is based on the principle of equal opportunity and equal justice. Yet, for too long, too many African-Americans have been subjected to the unfairness of racial profiling. That's why, earlier this year, I asked Attorney General John Ashcroft to develop specific recommendations to end racial profiling. It's wrong, and it must be ended in America.

There are other ways my agenda will help ensure that the American Dream touches every willing heart, from creating opportunities for affordable housing and health care to encouraging savings and reducing taxes on working people. But throughout, my agenda is laced with some common themes: trusting the people, empowering communities and charities, and creating one nation of justice and equality.

It matters what Presidents do. It also matters what Presidents say and how they say

it. I've tried to speak in a tone that brings us together and unites us in purpose. I believe that even when disagreements arise, we should treat each other with civility and with respect. That is a basic requirement of democracy.

When he received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., said that whenever he was on an airplane, he was always reminded of how dependent we all are on each other. He said, "A flight is successful only because of the hard work and devotion of the known pilots and unknown ground crew." His point was that we all have a role to play, and we cannot succeed as a group unless each one of us succeeds as an individual.

As the President of one of the most diverse nations in the world, I carry the responsibility of making sure that every voice is heard and every person is respected. This is the legacy and the unfinished work of Lincoln, King, and so many others, in ways large and small, have brought us to where we are today. They dreamt of a unified America. Now we must continue to work to convert that dream into a reality.

I hope you have a productive and successful convention. And I look forward to working with you on matters that are vital to America.

God bless you all, and God bless America.

NOTE: The President's remarks were videotaped at approximately 3 p.m. on July 2 in the Library at the White House for later transmission to the convention in New Orleans, LA. The transcript was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 9.

Remarks at an Immigration and Naturalization Service Ceremony on Ellis Island, New York

July 10, 2001

Thank you very much, Mr. Attorney General. I appreciate your kind words, and I appreciate your service to America. My fellow Americans who stand behind us, congratulations.

Just a few minutes ago, I was the leader of another country. Now it's my honor to speak to you as the leader of your country.

And the great thing about America is, you don't have to listen unless you want to. [Laughter]

Governor Pataki, it's great to be with you. Mayor Giuliani, thank you both for your kind comments. Senator Schumer—Charles Ellis Schumer, who was named for Ellis Island—and Senator Clinton, thank you all for being here. Congressman Fossella and Congresswoman Maloney, thank you for being here. Assistant Attorney General Dinh, thank you for your service to our country. I made a great appointment when I picked him. Silvia Sanchez, thank you for singing the national anthem. And ladies and gentlemen, it is an honor to be here.

I'm pleased to be joined by two members of my Cabinet who are Americans by choice, Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Mel Martinez.

This little piece of land, less than 30 acres in all, is like no other place in America. Twelve million souls arrived here and would speak of the experience for the rest of their lives. They remembered the difficulties along with the joys. They remembered the long lines—never longer than on a single day in 1907, when more than 11,000 new immigrants filed through this hall. They remembered how loud it was here and how confusing.

There was no President to greet them, only people with clipboards, stethoscopes, and a lot of questions. A man from Italy describes seeing the Statue of Liberty for the first time. He said, "The thrill was unbelievable—but always the fear because you had to go through Ellis Island." For all that, they kept hoping; they kept believing; and they kept coming. And 100 million Americans can draw a straight line from the life they know today to a moment in this hall, when a name was called and a person took the first step toward citizenship in the United States of America. Each of you took that first step sometime ago. Several of you have been here for decades.

This group of new Americans includes students, teachers, a restaurant owner, a professor, a bartender, an insurance agent, a doctor, and a violinist. For all of you, the oath of citizenship is more than a formality.

And today America is more than your home; it's your country. This is one of the things that makes our country so unique. With a single oath, all at once, you become as fully American as the most direct descendant of a Founding Father.

The Founders themselves decided that when they declared independence and wrote our Constitution. You see, citizenship is not limited by birth or background. America at its best is a welcoming society. We welcome not only immigrants themselves but the many gifts they bring and the values they live by. Hundreds of thousands of immigrants take the oath of citizenship every year. Each has come not only to take but to give. They come asking for a chance to work hard, support their families, and to rise in the world. And together, they make our Nation more, not less, American.

Immigration is not a problem to be solved. It is a sign of a confident and successful nation. And people who seek to make America their home should be met in that spirit by representatives of our Government. New arrivals should be greeted not with suspicion and resentment but with openness and courtesy.

As many immigrants can testify, that standard has not always been observed. For those seeking entry, the process is often a prolonged ordeal full of complexities and burdens. I'm committed to changing this with INS reforms that treat every immigrant with respect and fairness.

Today here's the goal for the INS: a 6-month standard from start to finish for processing applications for immigration. It won't be achievable in every case, but it's the standard of this administration, and I expect the INS to meet it.

Not every applicant is entitled to admission, but every applicant is entitled to a timely and courteous review of his or her case. We can help legal immigrants in other ways. If a child's parent and financial sponsor should pass away, we should permit the other parent to take over as a sponsor. And in the case of a minor child, entitlement to a visa should be measured by the age on the date of the application, not on the date the INS has finally processed the visa.

And we should spare families the hardship of separation while one member is awaiting a green card. I support providing an extension of the temporary window that allows people to file for legal residency without having to return to their country of origin. And I urge the Members of the United States Congress to act swiftly on 245(i) reform.

In the life of an immigrant, citizenship is a defining event. In the life of our Nation, new citizens bring renewal. By taking an oath, as you have done today, immigrants affirm a belief in the American creed. For most Americans, there's no formal moment of affirmation, but to each of us fall the same responsibilities. Our democracy's sustained by the moral commitments we share: reverence for justice and obedience to the law, tolerance and decent respect for the opinions of others, responsibility not only to ourselves but for our families and neighborhoods, love of country shown not in prideful boasts but in modest gratitude, and an active concern for our Nation's future.

That future depends on the values of self-government, our sense of duty, loyalty, self-confidence, and regard for the common good. We're a diverse country and getting more diverse. And these virtues are what keeps this great country together. Believing in them and living by them, this great land will always be united.

When they left behind the old world, the millions who landed here at Ellis Island came with a vision of a better life. They sought more than economic opportunity, though that was surely part of it. They wanted more than political freedom, though that was crucial. Above all, they wanted the rights, the duties, and the dignity of American citizenship. This place is now a museum, but it stands for a living tradition. And on Ellis Island today, the great hope of America is renewed.

Since becoming the President, I've gotten to do a lot of really fascinating things. There's nothing like—quite like the event this morning. So will you please join me, and rise, as we say the Pledge of Allegiance.

Right hand up, please. Actually, right hand on your heart. *[Laughter]*

[At this point, the President led the participants in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.]

Congratulations.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:55 a.m. in the Registry Room. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. George E. Pataki of New York; Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani of New York City; and singer Silvia Sanchez.

Remarks on the Posthumous Presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal to John Cardinal O'Connor in New York City

July 10, 2000

Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your Eminence; Governor Pataki and Mrs. Pataki; Mayor Giuliani. I want to thank Chuck Schumer and Vito Fossella for such beautiful words. Senator Clinton; distinguished Members of the United States Congress; members of my Cabinet; Mary Ward, Dorothy Hamilton, and members of the O'Connor family; Reverend Ogilvie and Father Coughlin; leaders of the Catholic Church; Maureen O'Flynn, thank you for sharing your angelic voice with us today. My fellow Americans.

Thank you for the welcome to your city and to the seat of this archdiocese. I especially want to thank the police and fire departments for their presentation of the colors and their service to this community.

John Cardinal O'Connor was fond of recalling the greeting he received when visiting the Vatican. Pope John Paul II would meet him with these words: "How is the Archbishop of the capital of the world?" For me, on my first visit as President, it's a pleasure, Mr. Mayor, to be in the capital of the world.

This is a happier occasion than the day when we said our goodbyes at a solemn Mass in a mourning city. It takes a lot to bring all of New York to a pause, but that's what happened when the earthly remains of John Cardinal O'Connor were laid to rest in this beautiful cathedral.

From the distance of a year, his character and his contributions only seem larger. We remember a life of good works, strong faith, and great influence.

For many here today, those memories are still vivid and very personal. For parishioners, it may be the memory of an imposing figure who stood here so many times, looking every

inch a cardinal, fearing, it seemed, nothing and having an opinion, it seemed, on everything.

For thousands of veterans, it's the memory of a chaplain who counseled them, heard their confessions, and attained the rank of admiral. For the working men and women, it will be the memory of an advocate, someone who rose to great prominence but remained the proud son of a union man who honored hard work.

The poor and immigrants of this city will always remember their staunch friend who defended their interests and understood their struggles. Many families remember the church leader who came to AIDS patients with care and love.

Parents here and in Scranton will remember the priest who gave so much time and special care to boys and girls with disabilities. And the world will remember the gallant defender of children and their vulnerability, innocence, and their right to be born.

Many decades from now, these living memories of the man will begin to pass. Fewer and fewer will have known the sound of his voice, the largeness of his presence, the sting of his rebuke, his marvelous sense of humor, or the breadth of his compassion. But future generations will know at least this about the 11th leader of the archdiocese: He was a man who left a mark on his time; a moral leader not only in title but in truth; a defender of the faith, the very kind who have kept the faith alive for two millennia; a great man in a high place; and also for 80 years on this Earth, a good person, a cheerful giver, and a much-loved soul.

Posterity will know this: The Congress of the United States, in respect and gratitude, directed that a gold medal be struck bearing Cardinal O'Connor's name and image. And on this day, on behalf of the American people, I'm honored to present the Congressional Gold Medal to the family and to the successor of John Cardinal O'Connor.

God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:42 p.m. at St. Patrick's Cathedral. In his remarks, he referred to His Eminence Edward Cardinal Egan, Archbishop of New York and successor to Cardinal O'Connor; Gov. George E. Pataki of New York and his wife, Elizabeth; Mayor Rudolph W.

Giuliani of New York City; Mary Ward and Dorothy Hamilton, sisters of Cardinal O'Connor; Rev. Lloyd J. Ogilvie, Chaplain, U.S. Senate; Rev. Daniel P. Coughlin, Chaplain, U.S. House of Representatives; and opera singer Maureen O'Flynn.

Remarks Following a Meeting With Medical Organization Leaders

July 11, 2001

Thank you. Be seated, please. Dr. Perry, thank you very much. It's great to welcome you up from Monroe, Louisiana. Mr. Secretary—Madame Secretary, thank you all for being here. It's good to see Members of the United States Congress; thank you all for coming; my fellow Americans.

We've just come from a great meeting with leaders of medical organizations that represent over 300,000 doctors—specialists, men and women from around our country who are deeply concerned about the state of the practice of medicine, health care professionals that care deeply about not only the practice of medicine but, more importantly, the patients that they see, men and women whose whole life is aimed at improving the lives of their fellow citizens, as a result of their brilliant skills. We had a frank discussion about medicine today and where medicine is headed. And we share a concern that many patients are not receiving the quality of care that we would hope they would receive.

And so we're now debating this issue in Congress, how best to improve the quality of care without unnecessarily running up the cost of medicine, without encouraging more lawsuits, which will eventually cause people not to be able to have health insurance.

And there's a good alternative working through the House of Representatives that my administration supports. It's called the Fletcher bill. It's a piece of legislation which says that patients ought to have direct access to specialists. These men and women who represent specialists all across America embrace this bill, the bill that my administration supports, because of direct access to specialists. And that's important. It's a very important part of the legislation.

I know there's some talk that the bill that came out of the Senate is the only one that

the doctors in America are for. Well, I think if people take a good look and those who hadn't made up their mind yet in the House listened to the voices up here, they will hear there's plenty of doctors who believe that the Fletcher bill is the proper alternative, so patients get the quality of care they need without the fear of losing health insurance, without the fear that businesses, large and small, might decide rather than being sued all the time and, therefore, drop provisions for health care in total.

That's something we don't want in our society. We want more people covered, not less. We want the cost of medicine not to be driven up by unnecessary litigation. The Fletcher bill provides safeguards.

Now there's another issue that's important, and that is the external review process. It's an incredibly important part of any medical system—future medical system, if we want it to work. And that process basically says, if you're a patient and you and your doc don't agree with the decisions made by the health insurance company, that you ought to be able to appeal to a panel of doctors. And if the panel of doctors rule in your favor, the insurance company is obligated to move forward. If not, it becomes a cause of action in a court of law.

I just had the opportunity of meeting with Helen Barnes, a nurse-practitioner from Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Thank you for being here, Helen. She was in an automobile accident, and ever since, she's suffered severe muscular problems in her back and her neck. So she and her doc thought that she ought to have a mammoplasty to ease her pain. Her HMO denied her request for surgery. She then appealed the decision to an external medical review process. They ruled in her favor.

She took her case to an objective review process, a review panel, and they said she and her doc were right. And so she's going to receive the surgery she needs this January. I said, "Why not sooner?" She said, "Because she can't find time to get off work sooner." [Laughter]

But nevertheless, the process works. And it's so important that we have a tight external review process, one that addresses patients' needs, not the needs of people who want to

sue everybody; one who's focused on the patients of America so that they can take their claims to a panel of experts—medical experts, and have their problems addressed as quickly and as soon as possible.

The issue we ought to be discussing is quality of care for patients. That's the whole focus of medicine. And that ought to be the focus of any legislation that comes out of the United States Congress. And the Fletcher bill that is now being debated on the House floor represents the kind of legislation that my administration can support, that thousands of doctors across America support, and I believe most Americans will support when they hear the facts and the differences between the two pieces of legislation that are now being debated on the House floor.

I want to thank our doctor friends for being here. I want to thank you for your service to your respective communities. The docs in America really are a part of—medical professionals are a part of really what makes this country great. We've got the best health care in the world—by far, the best health care in the world—and we've got to make sure that any legislation, any laws passed out of Washington, enhances the health care for America and doesn't hurt it. And I believe the Fletcher bill will help and enhance the great medical care that we have in our country.

Thank you all for coming. Thank you for the endorsement of a good piece of legislation, and may God bless your work, and God bless America.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:50 p.m. in Presidential Hall in the Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building. In his remarks, he referred to Priscilla Perry, M.D., representative, American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery.

Statement on Action by the House Ways and Means Committee on the Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

July 11, 2001

I commend the House Ways and Means Committee for passing legislation today that includes key elements of my Faith-Based and

Community Initiatives. This clears the way for consideration by the full House of Representatives. This legislation will stimulate more charitable giving and support faith-based and community organizations in their efforts to help those in need. I will continue to work on a bipartisan basis with Members of the House and the Senate to implement my Faith-Based and Community Initiatives.

Memorandum on Implementing Government Reform

July 11, 2001

Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies

Subject: Implementing Government Reform

Throughout the campaign and in my Budget, I have called for “active, but limited” Government: one that empowers States, cities, and citizens to make decisions; ensures results through accountability; and promotes innovation through competition. Thus, if reform is to help the Federal Government adapt to a rapidly changing world, its primary objectives must be a Government that is:

- Citizen-centered—not bureaucracy centered;
- Results-oriented—not process-oriented; and
- Market-based—actively promoting, not stifling, innovation and competition.

In order to establish and implement Government reform throughout the executive branch, I hereby direct the following:

1. Establish Chief Operating Officers.

Each agency head shall designate a Chief Operating Officer, who shall be the senior official with agency-wide authority on behalf of the Secretary or agency head. The Chief Operating Officer, the equivalent of the Deputy Secretary, shall report directly to the agency head and shall be responsible for:

- (a) implementing the President’s and agency head’s goals and the agency’s mission;
- (b) providing overall organization management to improve agency performance;
- (c) assisting the agency head in promoting Government reform, devel-

oping strategic plans, and measuring results; and

- (d) overseeing agency-specific efforts to integrate performance and budgeting, expand competitive sourcing, strengthen their workforce, improve financial management, advance e-government, apply information policy and technology policies, and other Government-wide management reforms.

2. Implement Additional Agency Reforms.

Each agency head shall identify and implement additional changes within the agency that will promote the principles of government reform.

3. Establishment of President’s Management Council.

In order to advise and assist the President in ensuring that Government reform is implemented throughout the executive branch, I hereby establish the President’s Management Council (“Council”). The Council shall comprise:

- (a) The Deputy Director, Office of Management and Budget;
- (b) The Chief Operating Officers from the following agencies:
 - (1) Department of State;
 - (2) Department of the Treasury;
 - (3) Department of Defense;
 - (4) Department of Justice;
 - (5) Department of the Interior;
 - (6) Department of Agriculture;
 - (7) Department of Commerce;
 - (8) Department of Labor;
 - (9) Department of Health and Human Services;
 - (10) Department of Housing and Urban Development;
 - (11) Department of Transportation;
 - (12) Department of Energy;
 - (13) Department of Education; and
 - (14) Department of Veterans Affairs.

(c) The following central management agency representatives:

- (1) Director of the Office of Personnel Management;
- (2) Administrator of General Services;
- (d) Chief Operating Officers of the following agencies:
 - (1) Environmental Protection Agency;

- (2) National Aeronautics and Space Administration;
- (3) National Science Foundation;
- (4) Social Security Administration; and
- (5) Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- (e) Chief Operating Officers of three other executive branch agencies designated by the Chairperson, in his or her discretion;
- (f) Assistant to the President and Cabinet Secretary;
- (g) Deputy Assistant to the President for Management and Administration; and
- (h) Deputy Chief of Staff to the Vice President; and
- (i) Such other officials of the executive departments and agencies as the Director of the Office of Management and Budget or I may, from time to time, designate.

The Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall serve as Chairperson of the Council. The Chairperson of the Council may appoint a Vice-Chairperson from the Council's membership to assist the Chairperson in conducting affairs of the Council.

The functions of the Council shall include, among others:

- (a) improving overall executive branch management, including implementation of the President's Management Agenda;
- (b) coordinating management-related efforts to improve Government throughout the executive branch and, as necessary, resolving specific inter-agency management issues;
- (c) ensuring the adoption of new management practices in agencies throughout the executive branch; and
- (d) identifying examples of, and providing mechanisms for, interagency exchange of information about best management practices.

The Council shall seek advice and information as appropriate from nonmember Federal agencies, particularly smaller agencies. The Council shall also consider the management reform experience of corporations, nonprofit organizations, State and local governments, Government employees, public

sector unions, and customers of Government services.

Agencies shall cooperate with the Council and provide such assistance, information, and advice to the Council as the Council may request, to the extent permitted by law.

4. *Independent Agencies.*

Independent agencies are requested to comply with this memorandum.

5. *Revocation and Judicial Review.*

- (a) the memorandum of October 1, 1993, entitled "Implementing Management Reform in the Executive Branch" is revoked.

- (b) this memorandum is for the internal management of the executive branch and does not create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable by a party against the United States, its agencies or instrumentalities, its officers or employees, or any other person.

6. *Publication.*

The Director of the Office of Management and Budget is authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

Remarks on Medicare Reform

July 12, 2001

Thank you all very much. Today I'm here to talk about our most important commitment to our seniors, the health of our seniors and how we can modernize and strengthen Medicare.

I'm also here to announce an exciting new plan to provide every senior on Medicare an opportunity to better afford prescription drugs by the beginning of next year.

I want to thank the members of both political parties—of all three political parties—[laughter]—who are here today. It shows us firm commitment to make sure our Nation fulfills a solemn pledge to our seniors and that is that our seniors have the best possible health care available for them. So thank you all for coming. We've got many Members of the House and the Senate, most notably, Senators Breaux and Thomas—I mean, Senators Breaux and Frist and Congressman

Thomas, all three Members who worked hard on Medicare reform in the past and who are joining with the administration to promote Medicare reform this year.

Thirty-six years ago this month—and thank you, as well, Mr. Secretary, for being here—36 years ago this month President Lyndon Johnson flew to Independence, Missouri, to sign Medicare into law and to present the first Medicare registration card to former President Harry Truman. President Johnson spoke that day about what Medicare would mean for our country, and here is what he said: “No longer would older Americans be denied the healing miracle of modern medicine. No longer would illness crush and destroy the savings that they have so carefully put away over a lifetime, so that they may enjoy dignity in their later years.” He went on to say that “no longer will young families see their own incomes and their own hopes eaten away simply because they are carrying out their deep moral obligations to their parents and to their uncles and to their aunts.”

Medicare has lived up to President Johnson’s vision. It has improved the health of America’s seniors, and it’s eased the financial anxieties of retirement, reduced the burden on younger generations, and fulfilled our Nation’s commitment.

Medicare is a binding commitment. The Medicare promise we made in 1965 will never change. And as medicine advances and the needs of our seniors change, Medicare, too, must advance, and it, too, must change. This generation of leaders must honor and renew the promise of Medicare by strengthening Medicare for the future.

In 1965 health care usually meant hospital care. Today, we understand how important it is to prevent people from getting sick in the first place. Yet, Medicare does not fully cover preventative medicine.

In 1965 prescription drugs meant antibiotics. Today, illnesses that could once only be treated by invasive surgery are treated instead with effective new drugs. But these new drugs can be very expensive, and under the current system, Medicare doesn’t pay for them.

In 1965 medicine could offer people diagnosed with cancer and other dangerous diseases little hope. Today, we can defeat many

once incurable diseases but too often at a costly price that Medicare will not pay in full.

In 1965 the pace of medical progress was relatively slow. Today, hardly a day goes by without news of an exciting advance to extend life or improve health. Yet, Medicare takes way too long to authorize new treatments.

We must act now to ensure that the next generation of medical technology is readily available to America’s seniors, from medicines tailored exactly to an individual’s disease to Internet diagnosis that will allow patients to be treated by experts on the other side of their continent without the patients having to leave their living rooms.

In 1965 Medicare’s finances were based on assumptions that quickly proved wrong. This has had enduring consequences. Medicare has too many limits on coverage. Seniors enrolled in Medicare are responsible for a nearly \$800 deductible every time they visit a hospital. And they find themselves responsible for paying thousands more if they are seriously ill.

Medicare’s funding structure doesn’t make sense—two different parts, one of which appears to have a surplus, even though the other has a much bigger shortfall. And Medicare’s costs are rising too fast, which creates anxieties about the program’s stability.

It may be that cars don’t get any better than the 1965 Mustang. But even the ’65 Mustang didn’t have power windows or anti-lock brakes. When it comes to cars and when it comes to health care, 1965 is not the state of the art. We need to bring Medicare into the 21st century, to expand its coverage, improve its services, strengthen its financing, and give seniors more control over the health care they receive.

Medicare’s most pressing challenge is the lack of coverage for prescription drugs. Several people here with us this morning know from personal experience what that means. Frank Van der Linden was a newspaper reporter, and a good one; now he’s being squeezed behind Medicare premiums and drug costs. Or Bobby Cherry, he’s a senior coordinator at the Florida Avenue Baptist Church, right here in Washington; he pays close to 40 percent of his income for prescription drugs and Medicare copayments; or

Gwendolyn Black, who spends \$2,400 a year to put four healing drops a day into each of her eyes.

Today I announce the first step toward helping American seniors get the prescription drugs they need and deserve, a new national drug discount program for seniors that will begin early next year. Every senior on Medicare can receive a new drug discount card. It won't cost much, at most a dollar or two a month, and will work like the cards you already have for, say, your groceries. Present the card at a participating pharmacy, and you receive a substantial discount. It's as simple as that, and it's convenient.

The new drug discount plan combines the purchasing clout of millions of seniors to negotiate lower prices than under the current system. And under my plan, participating pharmacies will get new customers, and seniors will get high-quality drugs at a lower price.

It's a plan similar to the plan that brings discounts to many Americans who have private insurance. And the leaders of the companies that have been so successful in providing drug discounts in private plans are here with us today and will brief the press on the savings about our strategy.

The drug discount plan is the first necessary step to provide immediate help to seniors without destabilizing Medicare's finances. It is the first step, but it is not a substitute for a drug benefit and for strengthening Medicare. And that's why my administration has developed, with a bipartisan group of legislators, a framework for strengthening and expanding Medicare for the long term. This framework will guide us as Congress takes up Medicare in the coming months, and here are its main elements:

First, seniors already enrolled in Medicare and those near retirement must have the option of keeping their Medicare exactly the way it is today. No senior will see any change that he or she does not want or does not seek. If you like things the way they are, that's just the way they'll stay.

Second, all seniors today and tomorrow will be offered a range of new Medicare plans, including an improved and updated Government plan, as well as others offered by nongovernment insurance plans. All the

Medicare plans must offer benefits at least as comprehensive as the Government plan. All will be regulated by the Federal Government, and all of them must offer prescription drug coverage.

Third, everyone enrolled in Medicare will have the power to choose—power to choose—which plan works best for him or her. The plans will compete with each other, forcing them to offer better service, extra benefits, and lower premiums. All seniors in America should enjoy the same freedoms that Federal employees have today when it comes to choosing their health care plans. We must trust seniors to make the right decisions for themselves.

Fourth, Medicare must become more responsive to seniors, especially to seniors on low incomes and with unusually high medical costs. Sometimes people discover Medicare's gaps when they need Medicare most. Under the current system, the sickest Americans pay a higher percentage of their bill than others do. And that's not right, and under our approach, that will stop. We'll put a stop-loss limit on the amount any senior can be asked to pay in any year.

Too many seniors feel compelled to purchase costly Medigap policies to cover what Medicare does not. Take, for example, Mr. Cuyler Taylor, who's with us today. The Taylors spend more than \$10,000 a year on drugs and Medigap insurance. Our framework will not only cover drugs, but it will reduce the need for costly, extra insurance. The gaps in Medicare bear especially hard on low income people, and extra help will be available to them, as well.

And finally, we must put Medicare on a sustainable financial footing for future generations.

The two parts of Medicare must be combined into one. When popular alternative plans are established, the Government's contribution to any one Medicare plan should eventually be tied to the average cost of all Medicare plans, preventing any one plan from driving up the cost that all Americans must pay.

So these are the main principles for strengthening and improving Medicare. Nobody on Medicare will see any change in Medicare unless he or she wants it. There

will be new Medicare choices, and all of these new choices will offer prescription drugs. Medicare plans will compete by offering better service and lower premiums. Medicare will respond better to the needs of seniors and, especially, low income seniors and seniors with high medical bills. And Medicare will be put on sound financial footing.

These are principles which will strengthen one of our Nation's most sacred obligations, the health of our senior citizens. We'll protect seniors now, offering exciting new services and more choices to seniors in the future, and guarantee prescription drug coverage. And we will do it without overtaking our children and our grandchildren.

Medicine is constantly improving. Medicare must keep pace. That's my administration's commitment today and its exciting new vision for health care in America.

Thank you all for coming.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:51 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House.

Proclamation 7455—Captive Nations Week, 2001

July 12, 2001

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

The 21st century must become the "Century of Democracy." Democracy and freedom have taken root across the globe, and the United States will continue to stand for greater consolidation of pluralism and religious freedom, wider access to information, and respect for human rights and for the rule of law. Our Nation and many of our allies share this vision for the world. In the words of President Ronald Reagan, "For the sake of peace and justice, let us move toward a world in which all people are at last free to determine their own destiny."

During the 20th century, dictators, monarchs, and colonialism gave way to democracy through ballot boxes, pressure from citizens, and negotiated settlements to conflicts. However, freedom and liberty remained out of reach for many. In 1959, the Congress out-

mulgated a Joint Resolution authorizing and requesting the President to declare the third week of July as Captive Nations Week and to continue this annual statement "until such time as freedom and independence shall have been achieved for all the captive nations of the world."

Worldwide, many nations have successfully made transitions to democracy since President Eisenhower signed the Captive Nations Resolution. These democracies, whether nascent or consolidated, are found in areas that the great General and 34th President could have barely imagined would find freedom before the 20th century closed.

In spite of the proliferation of democracies over the past century, many people across the globe are held captive by their governments. More than a decade after the Berlin Wall fell, more than 2 billion people still live under authoritarian regimes. America must remain vigilant in our support of those living under authoritarianism. There remain people in Asia, the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Central Asia who do not enjoy the right to choose their own governments and to hold those governments accountable.

Americans and the 3 billion others across the globe living in democracies desire the same freedoms for the remaining 42 percent of the world's population who live without them. But as long as governments like those in Afghanistan, Burma, Cuba, Iraq, and Sudan exist, freedom is not accessible to all. Greater access to robust marketplaces of ideas, as well as freedom of worship and expression, will empower those living in closed societies. Strong and transparent judicial systems and respect for human rights and the rule of law also serve as necessary foundations for democracy.

To promote the development of democratic practices worldwide, I reaffirm America's support for freedom, justice, and pluralism. I have asked my Administration to examine our programs to support democracy and human rights movements closely and to ensure that these programs advance American policy. In addition, I want to make certain that our annual State Department

human rights, trafficking in persons, and religious freedom reports are integrated into American foreign policy.

The Congress, by Joint Resolution approved July 17, 1959 (73 Stat. 212), has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating the third week in July of each year as "Captive Nations Week."

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim July 15–21, 2001, as Captive Nations Week. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this week with appropriate ceremonies and activities and to reaffirm their devotion to the aspirations of all peoples for liberty, justice, and self-determination.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twelfth day of July, in the year of our Lord two thousand one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-sixth.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., July 16, 2001]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 13, and it will be published in the *Federal Register* on July 17.

Remarks at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland

July 13, 2001

Thank you very much. Dr. Miller, it's my honor to be here in the number one hospital in the United States to talk about an incredibly important issue. And that's Medicare, and how to make sure it's relevant as we head into the 21st century.

I want to thank you for giving me a chance to come. I'm honored to be traveling today with Tommy Thompson. I knew Tommy as a Governor. I knew he'd be a great Secretary of Health and Human Services, and he's proved me right. I appreciate you being here, Tommy.

I want to thank Dr. Brody. I want to thank Mr. Peterson. I want to thank Congressman Cummings and Congressman Ehrlich for being here, as well. Mr. Mayor, thank you very much for coming. I appreciate the base-

ball bat with Cal Ripken's signature on it. [Laughter]

I am so proud of the health care system of America. We're the best in the world. We've got the best docs in the world. We've got the best research in the world. We've got the best hospitals in the world. And I intend to keep it that way. It's really important that our health care be responsive and innovative and rewarding.

And there are some bills coming up in front of Congress now that will help determine the course of medicine. One is called the Patients' Bill of Rights. It's really important that we not have our system laden down by unnecessary lawsuits, that when we pass legislation, we keep patients in mind and make sure patients have direct access to specialists and make sure patients have the capacity to take their complaints to an independent review organization so that the complaint can be remedied quickly, not held up in a court of law.

I think we'll get a pretty good piece of legislation out. I certainly hope so, because it's part of a reform process, all aimed at making our health care system focus on patients and their relationship with doctors.

The big issue also confronting us is Medicare. The other day in the Rose Garden I laid out a Medicare set of guidelines, and I'm going to reiterate those here today. But I started off my talk by reminding people that another Texas President, Lyndon Johnson, started Medicare. And he presented former President Harry Truman with the first Medicare card, as he outlined the dream of Medicare.

And the truth of the matter is, Medicare has met the goals of America. Seniors are better off as a result of Medicare. But the problem with Medicare is, medicine changes, and Medicare has not. Medicine in the United States is changing dramatically, and I witnessed firsthand some of the fascinating technologies taking place in your eye clinic here and incredibly important changes when it comes to kidney transplants.

And yet, oftentimes, as innovation occurs in the health care area, Medicare is stuck in the past. It won't change, because it's too bureaucratic. The other day I said, you know, 1965 is when the program started, and even

though a lot of people think the 1965 Mustang was the best car ever made, it wasn't very modern. And even though Medicare may be the best invention of man, it's not very modern today.

And so, in the Rose Garden and here again at Johns Hopkins, I call upon the Congress to work with the administration to modernize Medicare, to make sure the Medicare system reflects the great hopes and promises of the health care in the 21st century. And what does that mean?

Well, it means, first and foremost, that anybody who likes Medicare today can stay on Medicare; that if you're happy with the Medicare system, getting up in your years, you're not interested in change, that you should be allowed to stay in the system as it is. In other words, no change, no threats, no problems.

However, Medicare also ought to do what it does for Federal employees. The Federal Congress ought to say, "If it's okay for Federal employees to have a variety of choices from which to choose, so should America's seniors. If it's okay for people who work for the Federal Government to be able to pick and choose a plan that meets his or her needs, seniors ought to be able to do that, as well."

So we need to bring new opportunities and options into Medicare for America's seniors, all of which must include prescription drug benefits; all of which must understand that part of the innovation that has taken place in the medical arena has included brand-new prescription drugs and new opportunities for people to have prescription drugs, and prescription drugs needs to be an integral part of Medicare, not only the system that exists today but whatever options seniors choose to use in the future.

Thirdly, any good Medicare system will create competition for service and will reduce premiums.

Fourthly, any good Medicare system must have stop-loss insurance provided for patients. I mean, we have a system today in Medicare where there's no telling how much people pay, depending upon the complications on the procedure. And that's not right. We need stop-loss. We need to say to seniors, there is certainty when it comes to your

Medicare bills. And that's not the case today in Medicare.

And at the same time, we've got to recognize that we need to take care of low income seniors, as well. There are going to be some seniors that simply aren't going to be able to afford much. And our Government must be kind and generous in taking care of those seniors.

And finally, this system needs to be on sound financial footing. Trying to figure out Medicare financing is pretty confusing for the layman. We've got one fund where everybody says, it's got a surplus. We've got a second fund that's in significant deficit. And that kind of accounting has got to stop. We need honesty in accounting when it comes to Medicare, by combining both Part A and Part B into a unified trust, so the American people know exactly what's happening in the Medicare system.

Those are the guidelines I laid out. Pleased to report to you yesterday in the Rose Garden, there were some Democrat Members, there were some Republican Members, and there was even an independent Senator. *[Laughter]*

This is an incredibly important issue. Now, I understand politics pretty well, and I'm afraid the American people do, too. They've seen what happens with the Medicare issue. That's why, in the political vernacular, they call it "Mediscare," because somebody who comes along and tries to do what's right will have the issue used against them for political purposes.

The truth of the matter is, I'm not afraid of the issue, because this is the right thing to do. We've got a lot of baby boomers, like me, fixing to retire. And we had better make sure we modernize the system, to make sure the system is whole and sound for tomorrow's seniors.

But we also have an obligation for today's seniors. And the idea that many seniors can't access the latest technology—many seniors on Medicare don't have the same benefit that other seniors do in the private markets, got private insurance—just simply is not right.

And so it's time for the United States Congress to set aside the kind of political bickering that tends to dominate our Nation's Capital, and to focus on what's right for the

people—is to seize this moment before it's too late; to come together, both parties coming together to modernize Medicare, to make it sound but also to make sure it's a compassionate system and one that works.

Health care is an incredibly important part of our country. It's what sets America apart and makes our land so incredibly unique. And those of us who hold high office have the obligation to make sure the system works as best as it possibly can.

I want to thank the docs for your hard work and your compassion. My hope is that with proper reforms, we'll continue to attract the best and brightest in our society to the medical profession, so that doctors actually get to perform their talent, as opposed to spend hours on paperwork, that you get to spend more time in your offices, as opposed to the court rooms, that you get to practice the medicine for which you've been trained.

I want to thank the folks here at Hopkins for setting up a fine example for hospitals all across the land. And I want to thank my fellow citizens for giving me a chance to be the President of the greatest country on the face of the Earth.

Thank you for letting me come by, and God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:45 p.m. in the Hurd Hall. In his remarks, he referred to William R. Brody, Ph.D., president, Johns Hopkins University; Edward D. Miller, Jr., M.D., chief executive officer, Johns Hopkins Medicine; Ronald R. Peterson, president, Johns Hopkins Hospital; Mayor Martin O'Malley of Baltimore; and Cal Ripken, Jr., third baseman, Baltimore Orioles.

Statement on Climate Change Review Initiatives

July 13, 2001

Last month I announced the fundamental principles to guide a scientifically sound and effective global effort to reduce the buildup of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. As I said then, my administration's climate change policy will be science-based, encourage research breakthroughs that lead to technological innovation, and take advantage of the power of markets. It will encourage global participation and will pursue actions that

will help ensure continued economic growth and prosperity for our citizens and for citizens throughout the world.

Today I am pleased to report on specific initiatives that have been advanced in the past month by my Cabinet-level Climate Change Working Group. These initiatives represent important steps in putting our principles to work through partnerships with other nations, industry, and non-governmental organizations. They are designed to increase our scientific understanding of climate change, to tap the enormous promise of technology in addressing greenhouse gas emissions, and to promote further cooperation on climate change with our partners in the Western Hemisphere and beyond.

To advance the science of climate change, the Secretary of Commerce has convened an interagency work group charged with developing a Federal research plan that will prove vital to increasing our understanding of the dimensions and dynamics of climate change. Prominently, NASA will invest over \$120 million in the next 3 years in research on the natural carbon cycle, climate modeling, and the link between atmospheric chemistry and climate to help reduce uncertainties in the science highlighted by the recent National Academy of Sciences report requested by my Cabinet-level working group.

To advance technological innovation, the Department of Energy has just signed agreements to begin two significant new projects to study carbon sequestration. The first agreement is with The Nature Conservancy, the world's largest private international conservation group, to study land use and forestry practices for storing carbon more effectively in Brazil and Belize. The second is with an international team of energy companies—BP-Amoco, Shell, Chevron, Texaco, Pan Canadian (Canada), Suncor Energy (Canada), ENI (Italy), Statoil Forskningscenter (Norway) and Norsk Hydro (Norway)—to develop a new set of technologies for reducing the cost of capturing carbon dioxide from fossil fuel combustion plants. Grants for six other sequestration research projects have also been awarded under this \$25 million initiative that leverages an additional \$50 million from the private sector and foreign governments.

To further cooperation in the Western Hemisphere and beyond on climate change, the Department of Treasury yesterday entered into a \$14 million “debt for forest” agreement with the Government of El Salvador under the Tropical Forest Conservation Act. By funding tropical forest conservation in that country, the agreement will secure important benefits of carbon sequestration and climate change mitigation.

Fostering further scientific cooperation on climate change among nations in our hemisphere, the Department of Commerce is bringing together more than 100 scientists from the United States, Mexico, and South America to study the regional impacts of climate change, another important area of uncertainty highlighted by the National Academy of Sciences study.

My Environmental Protection Agency Administrator also met with the Canadian and Mexican environment ministers on June 29 and pledged to jointly consider “market-based approaches for carbon sequestration, energy efficiency, and renewable energy in North America.” Today the United States will host a meeting with the Japanese environment minister at which they will focus on opportunities for bilateral cooperation on climate change, including enhanced, joint climate modeling research.

Finally, in keeping with my commitment to engage internationally, the United States has participated and will continue to participate constructively in international discussions on climate change, including in the upcoming Sixth Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP-6) that begins this Monday in Bonn, Germany.

These initiatives illustrate the efforts my administration will continue to encourage strongly. These partnerships leverage resources to achieve tangible results. In many cases, their scope is international, reflecting the fact that both the problem and solutions for climate change extend beyond the borders of any one nation. And they represent the kind of investments in scientific and technological knowledge on which real progress on this long-term challenge must be based. I am pleased that those who are signing agreements with us or who have otherwise

pledged to pursue joint research with our Government share our vision of enhancing our knowledge and making progress on this important issue.

Statement: Toward a Democratic Cuba

July 13, 2001

Seven years ago today a tugboat carrying 72 people off the coast of Cuba, the *13 de Marzo*, was repeatedly rammed by Cuban authorities resulting in 41 deaths, including 10 children. On this sad anniversary, the United States extends condolences to the families and survivors of this tragedy. The tyranny that rules Cuba today bears direct responsibility for this and other crimes—crimes, that should not go unpunished, against innocent civilians, and countless other human rights violations over the years.

As I said on Cuban Independence Day, the sanctions the United States enforces against the Castro regime are not just a policy tool but a moral statement. It is wrong to prop up a regime that routinely stifles all the freedoms that make us human. The United States stands opposed to such tyranny and will oppose any attempt to weaken sanctions against the Castro regime until it respects the basic human rights of its citizens, frees political prisoners, holds democratic free elections, and allows free speech.

In order to manage more effectively the sanctions against the Cuban regime and enforce the Federal regulations governing the embargo, I have asked the Treasury Department to enhance and expand the enforcement capabilities of the Office of Foreign Assets Control in this area. It is important that we uphold and enforce the law to the fullest extent with a view toward preventing unlicensed and excessive travel, enforcing limits on remittances, and ensuring humanitarian and cultural exchanges actually reach pro-democracy activists in Cuba.

In addition, I will expand support for human rights activists and the democratic opposition, and we will provide additional funding for nongovernmental organizations to work on pro-democracy programs in Cuba.

Focusing our support on activities that promote democratic values will go a long way toward accelerating the democratic transition of Cuba.

Finally, it gives me great pleasure to announce the Director, Office of Cuba Broadcasting, Mr. Salvador Lew, a well-respected journalist and member of the Advisory Board for Cuba Broadcasting. I have told Mr. Lew that my number one priority is to make sure that Radio and TV Marti are broadcast clearly to Cuba allowing every Cuban citizen access to accurate news and information. In order to do that, I have instructed him to use all available means to overcome the jamming of Radio and TV Marti. Once we open the flow of information, the demands for freedom will ring stronger than ever.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Reporting on Iraq's Compliance With United Nations Security Council Resolutions

July 13, 2001

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

Consistent with the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution (Public Law 102-1) and as part of my effort to keep the Congress fully informed, I am reporting on the status of efforts to obtain Iraq's compliance with the resolutions adopted by the United Nations Security Council.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Robert C. Byrd, President pro tempore of the Senate.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

July 7

The White House announced that the President declared a major disaster in Montana and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe winter storms on June 3–14.

July 8

In the evening, the President returned from Kennebunkport, ME, to Washington, DC.

July 9

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Fairfax, VA, and later returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to nominate Jack Martin to be Chief Financial Officer of the Department of Education.

The President announced his intention to nominate Joan E. Ohl to be Commissioner of Children, Youth, and Families within the Department of Health and Human Services.

The President announced his intention to nominate Melody H. Fennel to be Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations.

The President announced his intention to nominate Frederico Juarbe, Jr., to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training.

The President announced his intention to nominate the following individuals to be members of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation: Mark Edward Rey, Eric M. Bost, James R. Moseley, Joseph J. Jen, Thomas C. Dorr, J.B. Penn, and William Hawks.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals as members of the President's National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee: Daniel P. Burnham, Joseph Paul Nacchio, Van B. Honeycutt, Clay M. Jones, David Michael Cote, F. Duane Ackerman, Herbert W. Anderson, Donald Joseph Obert, and Bernard John Ebberts.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals as Directors of the Board of Directors for the Student Loan Marketing Association: Colin R. McMillan, Catherine L. Hanaway, Mary K.

Bush, Cory T. Shade, Kathleen MacLellan Gregg, and Sara Alicia Tucker.

July 10

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation to congratulate 2001 Wimbledon women's singles champion Venus Williams from the Oval Office. Later, he traveled to New York City, and in the afternoon, he returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to nominate Mark W. Olson to be a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

The President announced his intention to nominate Elsa A. Murano to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Food Safety.

The President announced his intention to nominate Jay S. Bybee to be Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Counsel.

July 11

In the afternoon, the President met with Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Chief Executive Chee-Hwa (C.H.) Tung in the Residence at the White House.

The President announced his intention to nominate William D. Montgomery to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

The President announced his intention to nominate Clifford G. Bond to be Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The President announced his intention to nominate Mario P. Fiori to be Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations and Environment.

The President announced his intention to nominate Mary E. Peters to be Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration.

The President announced his intention to nominate Mauricio J. Tamargo to be Chairman of the Federal Claims Settlement Commission of the United States at the Department of Justice.

The President announced his intention to nominate Charles Curie to be Administrator of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

The President announced his intention to nominate William Baxter to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

The President announced his intention to nominate Robert V. Royall to be Ambassador to Tanzania.

July 12

The President announced his intention to nominate Michael P. Socarras to be General Counsel of the Department of the Air Force.

The President announced his intention to nominate Eric M. Javits to be U.S. Representative to the Conference on Disarmament, with the rank of Ambassador.

The President announced his intention to nominate Charles Lester Pritchard to be Special Envoy for Four-Party Talks, with the rank of Ambassador.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals as members of the Board of Directors of the Federal National Mortgage Association: William Robert Harvey, Molly Hering Bordonaro, Taylor C. Segue III, and Victor Henderson Ashe.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals as members of the American Battlefield Monuments Commission: Paul X. Kelly, Frederick M. Franks, Jr., Julius E. Becton, Patrick H. Brady, Antonio Lopez, Alan K. Simpson, Joseph E. Persico, Tom Ridge, Will H. Tankersley, Sue E. Turner, and Sara A. Sellers.

The President announced his appointment of Annabelle Thompson Lockhart as Acting Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division at the Department of Labor.

The President announced his intention to nominate Robert W. Jordan to be Ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

The White House announced that the President declared a major disaster in Virginia and ordered Federal aid to supplement Commonwealth and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding on July 8–10.

July 13

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Baltimore, MD, and later to Camp David, MD.

The White House announced that the President sent a message of support to President Fernando de la Rúa of Argentina concerning Argentina's economic situation.

**Nominations
Submitted to the Senate**

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted July 10

Theresa Alvillar-Speake,
of California, to be Director of the Office of Minority Economic Impact, Department of Energy, vice James B. Lewis, resigned.

J. Richard Blankenship,
of Florida, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

Ross J. Connelly,
of Maine, to be Executive Vice President of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, vice Kirk K. Robertson, resigned.

Emily Stover DeRocco,
of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor, vice Raymond L. Bramucci.

Melody H. Fennel,
of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, vice Hal C. DeCell III.

Thomas C. Hubbard,
of Tennessee, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Korea.

Thomas J. Miller,
of Virginia, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Greece.

Larry C. Napper,
of Texas, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Joan E. Ohl,
of West Virginia, to be Commissioner on Children, Youth, and Families, Department of Health and Human Services, vice Patricia T. Montoya, resigned.

Harvey Pitt,
of North Carolina, to be a member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for a term expiring June 5, 2005, vice Isaac C. Hunt, Jr., term expired.

James E. Gritzner,
of Iowa, to be U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of Iowa, vice Charles R. Wolle, retiring.

Michael J. Melloy,
of Iowa, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit, vice George G. Fagg, retired.

Michael P. Mills,
of Mississippi, to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Mississippi, vice Neal B. Biggers, retired.

Submitted July 12

Eric M. Bost,
of Texas, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation, vice Shirley Robinson Watkins, resigned.

Michael L. Dominguez,
of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, vice Ruby Butler DeMesme.

Thomas C. Dorr,
of Iowa, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation, vice Jill L. Long, resigned.

Mario P. Fiori,
of Georgia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army, vice Mahlon Apgar IV.

Nelson F. Gibbs,
of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, vice Keith R. Hall.

William T. Hawks,
of Mississippi, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation, vice Michael V. Dunn, resigned.

Hans H. Hertell,
of Puerto Rico, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Dominican Republic.

Joseph J. Jen,
of California, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation, vice Keith C. Kelly, resigned.

Robert Geers Loftis,
of Colorado, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Kingdom of Lesotho.

James R. Moseley,
of Indiana, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation, vice Richard E. Rominger, resigned.

J.B. Penn,
of Arkansas, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation, vice August Schumacher, Jr., resigned.

Mark Edward Rey,
of the District of Columbia, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation, vice Karl N. Stauber.

Ronald M. Segal,
of Colorado, to be Director of Defense Research and Engineering, vice Hans Mark, resigned.

Craig Roberts Stapleton,
of Connecticut, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Czech Republic.

John P. Stenbit,
of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense, vice Arthur L. Money.

Mauricio J. Tamargo,
of Florida, to be Chairman of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States for term expiring September 30, 2003, vice John R. Lacey.

Otto Wolff,
of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce, vice Linda J. Bilmes, resigned.

Otto Wolff,
of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Commerce, vice Linda J. Bilmes, resigned.

Otto J. Reich,
of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Western Hemisphere Affairs), vice Peter F. Romero.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released July 7

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to the State of Montana

Released July 9

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Statement by the Press Secretary on the appointment of Mary K. Sturtevant as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Intelligence Programs at the National Security Council

Released July 10

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Statement by the Press Secretary on the Request by the Salvation Army for an OMB Circular

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed S. 657

Announcement of nominations for a U.S. Court of Appeals Judge for the Eighth Circuit and two U.S. District Court Judges

Released July 11

Transcripts of press briefings by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Transcript of a press briefing by National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice on the President's upcoming visit to Europe

Released July 12

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Advance text of remarks by National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice at the National Press Club Newsmaker Luncheon

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to the Commonwealth of Virginia

Released July 13

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

**Acts Approved
by the President**

Approved July 10

S. 657 / Public Law 107-19

To authorize funding for the National 4-H Program Centennial Initiative